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**TRANSCRIPT OF  
PUBLIC HEARING ON REDISTRICTING  
INDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST  
JUNE 22, 2001**

**COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
JESSE M. UNRUH AUDITORIUM  
ROOM 4202  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814**

**PLEASE NOTE:**

*The following transcript was prepared by certified shorthand reporters. The Committee has corrected transcription errors that altered the substance of statements made by committee members. Other errors that do not interfere with understanding the substance have not been corrected.*

*The Committee invites individuals and organizations who made presentations at the hearing to advise it in writing if there are any errors in transcription that alter the substance of their testimony.*

1 ELECTIONS, REAPPORTIONMENT AND  
2 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS COMMITTEE

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12 COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO  
13 CALIFORNIA STATE CAPITOL BUILDING  
14 JESSE M. UNRUH AUDITORIUM  
15 1020 N STREET  
16 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

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2 --oOo--

3 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: We're going to go ahead and  
4 start, ladies and gentlemen. Thank you very much for being  
5 here today.

6 We are holding a hearing as opposed to a normal  
7 committee meeting where a quorum would be necessary to be  
8 established before we begin. This is just a hearing, no  
9 decisions being made, and so we can begin regardless of the  
10 quorum.

11 I want to thank you for attending this hearing.  
12 The California Assembly is committed to conducting a fair and  
13 open redistricting process in which members of the public  
14 are able to have a voice and an effective role.

15 This is the sixth in a series of hearings that  
16 we're holding in various locations throughout the state for  
17 the purpose of gathering public input into the redistricting  
18 process. As you know, we're all counted by the Census Bureau  
19 every ten years. Redistricting is the process by which the  
20 lines for Assembly, Senate, Congressional and Board of  
21 Equalization districts are changed every ten years after the  
22 decennial census. The 2000 census occurred in April 2000 and  
23 we received the detailed results of that census at the end of  
24 March this year. The census shows us both that California  
25 has experienced an overall increase in population, and that

1 our population has shifted.

2 I'm going to momentarily parenthetically insert a  
3 remark that I'm reading from a statement that I want to let  
4 the court reporters know that we'll give you a copy of this,  
5 so you needn't be working, and that means that I can read the  
6 rest of it faster. Because I'm going to ask people as we get  
7 going in the hearing to be careful not to do what I do, and  
8 start talking too fast, because it's just real frustrating  
9 with this energy crisis to have to turn up the air  
10 conditioning when the court reporters fingers catch fire. So  
11 we will try and avoid that. I'm going to read this speedily,  
12 but then slow down when I return to nonwritten text.

13 The most basic principle that guides our  
14 redistricting is the requirement of "one person, one vote."  
15 What this means is in order to ensure that each individual's  
16 vote carries the same weight, all the districts we draw must  
17 have the same population. After the 2000 census, because of  
18 the increase in California's population, the ideal population  
19 for Assembly and Senate districts is 423,396, and 846,791 or  
20 792 respectively. There is a margin of error there.

21 To give you a sense of where the lines are  
22 currently, as we undertake the process of redistricting, we  
23 have on display maps of the existing districts. As we do  
24 that there are certain requirements and guidelines from the  
25 United States Constitution, the Federal Voting Rights Act and

1 the California Constitution, as well as traditional  
2 redistricting principles that we pay attention to. One of  
3 the key factors is "communities of interest."

4           We're more than -- we're most of the way through  
5 here.

6           The concept of communities of interest embraces the  
7 many different kinds of ties that bind communities together.  
8 Communities of interest can include geographical ties,  
9 political entities and factors such as socio-economic status,  
10 the rural or urban character of an area, transportation and  
11 media infrastructures, community organizations and shared  
12 histories. The list is quite extensive. And we look to you  
13 to help us identify the relevant communities of interest  
14 within this region.

15           Please know that we also have a web site that  
16 contains information regarding redistricting and the  
17 redistricting process. The web site address and information  
18 on how to offer comments, receive notice of future  
19 meetings -- excuse me, receive notice of future hearings, and  
20 submit redistricting plans is available in the lobby.

21           And I'll just parenthetically note one additional  
22 thing. We would ask obviously that everyone turn their cell  
23 phones off. And I would ask if there is anyone in the room  
24 that doesn't have a cell phone and would like one, that we'll  
25 have a little gift thing, it's kind of a fun tradition at

1 these hearings. You can have the cell phone of anyone that  
2 goes off in the audience during the hearing. So just go for  
3 it. If somebody's cell phone goes off it's yours, okay. So  
4 everybody is -- if you want to give away your cell phone, the  
5 way to do it, signal that by leaving your cell phone on, and  
6 everybody will know. Thank you. I'll return to the text.

7           As I mentioned, this is just one of a series of  
8 redistricting hearings that the Assembly Committee on  
9 Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments is  
10 holding around the state. Additionally, after proposed plans  
11 have been submitted to the Legislature, we plan to hold at  
12 least two days of hearings in Sacramento. These hearings  
13 will be linked by satellite to locations around the state to  
14 allow interactive hearings.

15           We thank you for your participation today and hope  
16 that you will continue to participate as the redistricting  
17 process moves along.

18           Before we take testimony I would like to introduce  
19 to you our committee members and other members of the  
20 legislature. And I'll begin actually with -- I'm going to  
21 begin before I even go to the legislature, I'm going to start  
22 right out down at the end here with the republican consultant  
23 to the committee, Mr. Doug Yoakam. Then the Dean of the --  
24 just about the Dean of the Assembly -- certainly, pretty  
25 close, Second Dean, second in place, the Dean of the

1 republican members of the legislature, certainly, and one of  
2 the most highly regarded members of this body for a long  
3 time, and my friend, the Honorable Bill Leonard. Please.

4 MR. LEONARD: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And I  
5 appreciate that, and appreciate these hearings that the  
6 Committee is holding to listen and better understand  
7 communities of interest. We have the population numbers, we  
8 have the census data, what we don't have for drawing the best  
9 possible lines for legislative districts is information on  
10 communities of interest, of people who live in neighborhoods  
11 and in regions who share common goals, aspirations, common  
12 needs and common challenges.

13 And the purpose of these hearings and why it is  
14 important that we have them and that we listen, is to  
15 identify communities of interest in California. So I thank  
16 you for that and look forward to several more hearings with  
17 you as we proceed to beyond listening to plan drafting and  
18 opening the plans to public scrutiny.

19 (Change in court reporters. Remainder of page left blank  
20 intentionally.)

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23

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1                   CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,  
2 Assembly Member. Then the Chief Consultant for the  
3 Assembly Committee on Elections Reapportionment and  
4 Constitutional Amendments, Mr. Willie Guerrero, and then  
5 I'm John Longville, Chair of the Committee, and  
6 Assemblyman Darrell Steinberg, who represents the  
7 Sacramento area, along with his colleague who we'll  
8 introduce in a moment, and, therefore, is sitting in on  
9 the Committee to better understand the issues here, and  
10 I know everyone in this area is well familiar with  
11 Assembly Member Steinberg.

12                   ASSEMBLY MEMBER STEINBERG: Thank you,  
13 Mr. Chairman. I just want to welcome everyone to the  
14 Ninth Assembly District here at the State Capital, and  
15 to reiterate Mr. Leonard's comments and the Chair's  
16 comments earlier, I'm here to listen, and I'm anxious  
17 to hear what you have to say about how we can best  
18 understand communities of interest and use that  
19 information appropriately to define appropriate  
20 legislative districts. I thank you for being here.

21                   CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: And last, but by no means  
22 least, our colleague from the other portion of  
23 Sacramento and very good friend and highly regarded  
24 member and we are pleased to have with us today  
25 Assembly Member Anthony Pescetti.

1                   ASSEMBLY MEMBER PESCETTI: Good morning.  
2 Thank you, Mr. Chair. Mr. Steinberg, thank you for  
3 allowing us in your district. It's good to see so many  
4 friends and a lot of familiar faces. It's very  
5 important that the process that we conduct is fair and  
6 is fully representative of all the groups that make up  
7 our great state and our great community, and as one  
8 that has multiple counties, I represent two counties, a  
9 part of Sacramento and a part of San Joaquin County. I  
10 think it's important that we take a look at those  
11 communities and those areas and keep communities as  
12 whole and distinct as we possibly can. So I also look  
13 forward to the opportunity and thank you all for being  
14 here.

15                  CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. We  
16 will now go on to our agenda, and did we have any other  
17 state or federal officials present who are not up on  
18 the dais at this time and who had wished to make  
19 statements? I wanted to just make sure we didn't miss  
20 some member of Congress or another member of the  
21 legislature. We will then begin with those individuals  
22 who scheduled their testimony ahead of time. We have a  
23 handful of people there, and after which we will take  
24 those individuals who have signed in this morning  
25 outside the -- at the table outside. So for those who

1 signed in, I want to just warn you that it will be just  
2 a little bit of time before we get to you, and,  
3 therefore, if you did need to take a break or wanted  
4 to, I wanted to make sure you were aware you got a  
5 little time.

6 We will begin. Has Ms. Huffman arrived yet?  
7 Okay. If Ms. Huffman is not here, we will take her  
8 when she arrives.

9 I have -- is Mr. James Reede present?  
10 Mr. James Reede, Co-Chair of the 2001 Sacramento  
11 Redistricting Project. If you could come forward, sir,  
12 and I would ask you to note that for the record at the  
13 beginning if you could spell your name and try and  
14 remember to not talk as fast, as we all tend to do just  
15 without thinking about it.

16 MR. REEDE: Good morning, Chairman Longville  
17 and Assembly Members. My name is James W. Reede,  
18 R-E-E-D-E, Jr. and I'm a resident of the county and  
19 City of Sacramento, and I'd also like to add, Chairman,  
20 that two representatives from my community are here and  
21 I'm very pleased to see that. I am the Co-Chairperson  
22 of 1991 Redistricting Project, the coalition of 26  
23 local African American organizations.

24 In 1991 as the then Co-Chair of the 1991  
25 Redistricting Project, I testified to this Committee

1 and Senate Committee and focused then as now on  
2 Assembly Districts 4, 5, 9 and 10. I might add they  
3 just handed me a sign to slow down, so I'm talking a  
4 little bit slower.

5 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: I appreciate that, and I  
6 note that I was just handed a card. It requires -- our  
7 procedures require giving permission for this, we  
8 apparently had a reporter present who wanted permission  
9 to take photos. Does anyone have any objections? If  
10 no member has objection, so the Reporter is welcome to  
11 do that, and please go ahead, Mr. Reede, and excuse me  
12 for interrupting.

13 MR. REEDE: Okay, as I said, we focused then  
14 as now on Assembly Districts 4, 5, 9 and 10, Senate  
15 Districts 1, 4, 5, 6 and 11 and Congressional Districts  
16 3, 4, 5 and 11. Back in 1991 the then sitting governor  
17 vetoed the legislative plan that we had worked very  
18 closely with the Committee to draft. In that plan  
19 assembly districts were drawn that gave full  
20 representation of voice to the communities of interest  
21 in and around Sacramento County. Additionally, we  
22 worked with the Senate to draft districts that did not  
23 place the southern part of the City of Sacramento into  
24 a district that included Stockton. The African  
25 American community did not want to be disenfranchised

1 and linked with another community that had little to  
2 aid in the fulfilling of the dreams and aspirations of  
3 those members of my community of interest that would  
4 like to run for elective office.

5           The focus of my testimony is the same as then,  
6 with a slight twist this time. The focus of my  
7 testimony is not only the drawing of lines that promote  
8 the dreams and aspirations of the various communities  
9 of interest, but also the needs of the greater  
10 Sacramento region, and when I say "the greater  
11 Sacramento region," when the lines were eventually  
12 drawn by the California Supreme Court in 1991, they  
13 created districts that stretched from Highway 50 all  
14 the way down to the City of Stockton. Because of the  
15 explosive growth in the Sacramento region we are asking  
16 that the Assembly Committee look very closely at making  
17 as compact districts as possible.

18           The Sacramento growth has -- the Sacramento  
19 region has seen a growth in excess of 60 percent since  
20 19 -- or should I say 160 percent since 1991 census.  
21 In the greater Sacramento County or Sacramento County  
22 we have approximately 1.2 million people now. Dividing  
23 up the number of assembly districts that we would hope  
24 to see gives you a number of 2.8, basically almost  
25 three districts. When looking at -- I guess I'm

1 talking too fast again. She's burning up the computer.

2           What we would want you to do is, Number 1, is  
3 to look at the communities of interest as it relates to  
4 the dreams and aspirations of the residents of  
5 Sacramento County. Include compact districts that do  
6 not require candidates from those communities of  
7 interest to have to travel over 60 miles to ensure that  
8 they've touched all potential constituents, and when  
9 August 15 comes, look at the maps that we will be  
10 submitting as they reflect our desires for our  
11 communities, and with that I'll end my testimony, sir.

12           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for  
13 taking the time to be here today.

14           MR. REEDE: You are very welcome, Chairman.

15           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Has Mrs. Huffman arrived  
16 yet?

17           Okay, we will go next into Mr. James Shelby  
18 from the Sacramento Urban League, who is also the mayor  
19 of Citrus Heights, and I believe he's bringing an  
20 associate who will introduce himself as well, and I  
21 will -- just so that others can be prepared, I will  
22 note that after Mr. Shelby, we will double check again  
23 for Ms. Huffman and then move on to the Coalition of  
24 Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting, which  
25 is a panel of four individuals.

1           For now, Mayor Shelby, you have the microphone  
2 and with Mr. Assagai.

3           MR. SHELBY: Thank you, Honorable Chairman  
4 Longville. First of all, I'd like to compliment the  
5 presentation from the previous speaker, James Reede,  
6 and we do concur with that.

7           I'm here for two reasons today, one is to talk  
8 from the Urban League's perspective. We are looking at  
9 the process. As you look at redistricting in the state  
10 that one of the things we think you should consider,  
11 diversity should be a primary objective as you move  
12 forward with redistricting. If you look -- if you look  
13 at our state today, we are more diverse now than we  
14 were 25 years ago, and that ought to be a primary  
15 consideration as you begin to debate deliberations  
16 about joint districts.

17           Secondly, make sure there are moderate African  
18 American populations, so districts should be drawn to  
19 put together communities of interest that are largely  
20 African American, to maximize opportunities to elect  
21 African Americans, that's in the State's best interest,  
22 and we believe that; for instance, if you look at Del  
23 Paso Heights, which is considered a large primarily  
24 African American population, and you look at North  
25 Highlands and then putting that together I would say

1 the City of Citrus Heights -- I'm sorry, offers  
2 opportunity for an African American candidate that had  
3 cross-over appeal, could also have an African American  
4 base to run from, but at the same time the cross-over  
5 candidate in a larger jurisdiction.

6 And the other reason I'm here is for the City  
7 of Citrus Heights we incorporated five years ago as a  
8 city, and it's important that when these lines are  
9 drawn that you keep the city's interest, community of  
10 interest intact. We do not want Citrus Heights divided  
11 with one representative from one assembly district and  
12 one from another one. The community of interest is  
13 lost at that point. And in the same respect to  
14 congressional districts. We just want to make sure  
15 that we get -- currently now we are represented by  
16 Congressman Dolittle in one end of the city and Doug  
17 Ose at the other end, and it forces us now to deal with  
18 two representative in Congress, as opposed to having  
19 one representative in the city. There has been some  
20 advantages to that in some areas, but the community  
21 interest is not served when you draw two districts  
22 together. So let's make sure that we keep diversity as  
23 a main interest when you join the lines as the second  
24 reason to keep the City of Citrus Heights intact.  
25 Thank you, very much.



1           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,  
2 Mayor Shelby. And let me just verify that you're last  
3 name is spelled S-H-E-L-B-Y?  
4           MR. REEDE: -- B-Y, correct.  
5           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. And Mr. Assagai.  
6           MR. ASSAGAI: I just wanted to add -- Mel  
7 Assagai on behalf of the --  
8           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Excuse me, I'm sorry, Mr.  
9 Assagai, before you begin, I'm sorry I missed it.  
10          ASSEMBLY MEMBER LEONARD: Just one question  
11 for the mayor, what's the population of Citrus Heights  
12 in the 2000 census?  
13          MR. SHELBY: 86,000 in the 2000 census.  
14          ASSEMBLY MEMBER LEONARD: Very good, thank you  
15 much.  
16          CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Any other questions?  
17 Okay, thank you very much. Excuse me, Mr. Assagai.  
18          MR. ASSAGAI: I just wanted to add to  
19 Mr. Shelby's comments. What we are looking for is both  
20 compactness in terms of the City of Citrus Heights, but  
21 also districts that are competitive for a number of  
22 ethnic groups by putting populations together that make  
23 the district competitive over the whole range of  
24 diverse populations in the state. So it's not seeking  
25 districts that guarantee any potential result, but

1 guarantees competitiveness over a range of populations.

2 Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. Let  
4 me just verify, Mr. Assagai, for the Court Reporters,  
5 your last name is spelled with two "S's"?

6 MR. ASSAGAI: That's correct, A-S-S-A-G-A-I.

7 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay, thank you.

8 MR. ASSAGAI: Thank you very much,

9 Mr. Chairman.

10 ASSEMBLY MEMBER LEONARD: We appreciate your  
11 taking time to be with us. Next we have the Coalition  
12 of Asian Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting  
13 which will include, I believe, Ms. Judy Heary of the  
14 Asian Pacific -- excuse me, Asian Pacific Community  
15 Counseling; Mr. Robert Dawa, Filipino Action Committee,  
16 and, you know, I'm always embarrassed when I butcher  
17 people's names, I have Sukhdev Rye -- I hope I'm not  
18 pronouncing it too terribly -- from the Sikh Community,  
19 and Kathy Feng from the Asian Pacific American Legal  
20 Center.

21 And if you could go ahead and take this over,  
22 please correct my spellings -- excuse me, my  
23 pronunciations for the benefit of everyone, and I  
24 believe it wouldn't hurt for the Court Reporters if you  
25 also spelled your names before each of you begin.

1           MS. FENG: Thank you, Chairman Longville.  
2   Actually, you did wonderfully in pronouncing all of our  
3   names, and I wanted to thank you once again for  
4   convening this regional hearing in Sacramento to hear  
5   from the folks who are from Sacramento and to have  
6   looked at a number of different factors, including  
7   where their communities exist, politics, partisan, and  
8   also a number of other community of interest factors to  
9   identify what is important to their community in terms  
10  of ensuring fair representation for the Asian and  
11  Pacific Islander community.

12           I'm going to be introducing a number of  
13  speakers today and all of them are from our Sacramento  
14  branch of the CAPAFR statewide network, which you've  
15  seen in a number of other statewide regional hearings,  
16  and this group has come together for about a year now  
17  to look at maps. Again, looking at a number of  
18  different factors, including where the API community is  
19  and is a very eclectic and diverse group of folks. So  
20  I wanted to start out by introducing our first speaker,  
21  Ms. Judy Heary.

22           MS. HEARY: Thank you. I have copies of my  
23  presentation if you'd like copies. My name is Judy  
24  Fong Heary, it's spelled H-E-A-R-Y. I am a member of  
25  the Coalition for Asian Pacific Americans for Fair

1 Redistricting or CAPAFR in Sacramento County. I am the  
2 Executive Director of Asian Pacific Community  
3 Counseling, a nonprofit, community-based organization  
4 providing services to the Asian Pacific Islander  
5 communities of Sacramento.

6           Having served in this position for nearly  
7 three years, I learned a great deal in how to become  
8 knowledgeable about the diverse range of needs of Asian  
9 Pacific Islander communities and the people we serve  
10 here in Sacramento.

11           I'm currently also the Chair of the  
12 Redistricting Committee of the Council of Asian Pacific  
13 Islanders Together for Active Leadership, or CAPITAL.  
14 CAPITAL has over 80 member organizations in the  
15 Sacramento area, including the Chinese American Council  
16 of Sacramento, Filipino Political Action Coalition,  
17 Health for All, the Sacramento Asian Sports Foundation,  
18 Japanese American Citizens League and the South Asian  
19 Bar Association.

20           In coordination with the Asian Pacific  
21 American Legal Center, CAPITAL members have met over  
22 the course of a year to learn about the redistricting  
23 process, discuss local issues and priorities, and  
24 develop a consensus we can all support for the proposed  
25 redistricting maps at the assembly, county and city

1 level.

2 CAPITAL represents Sacramento and the CAPAFR  
3 or Coalition for Asian Pacific Americans for Fair  
4 Redistricting statewide network. As the Chair of the  
5 CAPITAL Redistricting Committee, I also work closely  
6 with representatives from the Latino Leadership  
7 Committee and the 2001 Redistricting Committee  
8 representing the African Americans on city and county  
9 level redistricting efforts and expect that this local  
10 united coalition will also work together on state  
11 redistricting.

12 We ask that the assembly please allow the  
13 input of the Asian Pacific Islander Americans, Latino  
14 and African American communities be meaningful by truly  
15 considering it when you redraw the district lines.

16 I would like to give a brief overview of the  
17 Asian Pacific community in Sacramento. This overview  
18 is based on my personal and professional affiliations  
19 as an advocate and participant in local community  
20 affairs in Sacramento. My agency, Asian Pacific  
21 Community Counseling, or APCC promotes the well being  
22 of Asian Pacific Islander American individuals,  
23 families and communities through culturally and  
24 linguistically relevant prevention, education, outreach  
25 and counseling. Our agency works closely with the

1 county to provide access to the mental health, drug and  
2 alcohol services to monolingual and limited  
3 English-speaking refugees, immigrants and citizens. We  
4 collaborate and work closely with other community-based  
5 service providers in order to meet the diverse needs of  
6 the APIA communities, especially youths and parents  
7 struggling to survive under high risk environmental  
8 conditions.

9           As a resident of the Vintage Park area of  
10 South Sacramento, I live in a neighborhood that is  
11 about 12 to 15 years old. Most of the homes were built  
12 in the community in the late 1980s and early 1990s. My  
13 neighbors reflect the broad range of families, cultures  
14 and ethnic groups. We have retired couples,  
15 professionals, engineers, self-employed men and women  
16 and public service employees such as teachers, police,  
17 sheriff deputies.

18           Like many other Asian American families, my  
19 family moved to the South Sacramento area because of  
20 the diversity in the neighborhood. Areas like Land  
21 Park, Greenhaven, Pocket in South Sacramento, Laguna,  
22 Rosemont and LaRiviera and Rancho Cordova just outside  
23 of Sacramento attract a lot of newcomer families. Many  
24 are immigrants from places like Southeast Asia, Taiwan,  
25 Korea and the Philippines and need language and

1 culturally sensitive assistance to facilitate full  
2 access to health and other services. Because many  
3 families live with several generations under one roof  
4 or in the same neighborhood, these families also have  
5 unique needs for both senior services and child care.  
6 It is critical for many of the neighborhoods receiving  
7 this influx of new population to consider their  
8 infrastructure for mental health, health clinics,  
9 substance abuse treatment centers and group homes for  
10 disabled or severely mentally ill and domestic violence  
11 shelters. My concern is that with all the new building  
12 and development going on in South Sacramento,  
13 especially in the southeast and suburban communities to  
14 the east, there appears to be no long-term plans to  
15 site a building or develop a property for the specific  
16 purposes of meeting future public service needs of the  
17 community.

18           Currently the closest medical facilities in  
19 the South area are along Bruceville Road near Highway  
20 99, Kaiser and Methodist Hospitals. Many of the  
21 families my agency serves face the barriers of low  
22 income or no insurance, being monolingual or limited  
23 English speaking and even transportation hurdles that  
24 prevent them from accessing care. Thus, our first  
25 priority in redistricting for South Sacramento and

1 adjacent suburbs such as Rosemont to be united in a  
2 single district where an assembly person can be elected  
3 who can be responsive to the unique needs of our  
4 immigrant population and other factors that bind these  
5 areas together.

6           The Eighth Assembly District has similar  
7 pockets of diversity pulling together several older  
8 Filipino-American farming communities with the  
9 extremely diverse West Sacramento which has a similarly  
10 rooted Filipino-American community, along with newer  
11 Pacific Islander and Southeast Asian communities. We  
12 ask the Committee to consider as our second priority  
13 the connection of these communities in drawing the  
14 Eighth. We also ask the Committee to consider the  
15 community in Laguna, which is an increasingly diverse  
16 area attracting many Asian Pacific Islander families,  
17 which is currently in the tenth district, combined with  
18 many areas of divergent communities of interest.

19           I'd like to end by thanking the Committee and  
20 Chairman Longville for convening these many regional  
21 hearings. These hearings have been an important  
22 process in ensuring that minority and other communities  
23 have the opportunity to advocate on the redistricting  
24 issues that are important to us.

25           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. Let



1 me note, by the way, we still do have two more  
2 hearings, regional hearings to go. I appreciate your  
3 thanking me for those, but I want to make sure that one  
4 doesn't think they are all over with today. We have one  
5 in Orange County and one in San Bernardino to go. Do I  
6 hear another question? Please go ahead and proceed  
7 with the next witness. Thank you.

8 MS. FENG: I realize for the Court Reporter's  
9 sake that I didn't introduce myself. My name is Kathay  
10 Feng, K-A-T-H-A-Y. Last name is F-E-N-G, and I'm with  
11 the Asian Pacific American Legal Center. We are  
12 representing in helping to organize and educate the  
13 CAPAFR network, which stands for Coalition of Asian  
14 Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting.

15 Our next speaker is Sukhdev Rye.

16 MR. RYE: Good morning. My name is Sukhdev  
17 Rye. Spelled S-U-K-H-D-E-V. The last name R-Y-E, and  
18 I'm a member of the Coalition for Asian Pacific  
19 Americans for Fair Representation in Sacramento County.  
20 I am tax lawyer and a founding member of the South  
21 Asian Bar Association of Northern California. My  
22 family has lived in the Sacramento Valley for four  
23 generations, and I have resided in the City of  
24 Sacramento my entire life. I'm active in the  
25 Sacramento Sikh community and in local state and

1 national democratic party politics.

2           Locally I've served on the City of

3 Sacramento's Parks and Recreations Citizen Advisory

4 Committee, the County of Sacramento's Assessment

5 Appeals Board and on the Board of Directors of the

6 Sacramento Transportation Management Association. At

7 the state and national levels I've worked as a

8 Legislative Aid to a United States Senator and as a tax

9 counsel for a member of the State Board of

10 Equalization.

11           On behalf of the Sacramento Sikh community and

12 the South Asian Bar Association of Northern California,

13 I support the broader principles which have been

14 articulated by other members of the Coalition of Asian

15 Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting. We urge you

16 to enforce the Voting Rights Act in order to ensure

17 that the ideal of one person one vote is realized for

18 the Asian Pacific Islander community.

19           Our priority in redistricting is for the

20 portion of the City of Sacramento, south of the

21 American River to be combined with the adjacent county

22 of Sacramento suburbs of Rosemont and LaRiviera to the

23 east into a single Ninth Assembly District. We believe

24 that this part of the City of Sacramento south of the

25 American River has a distinct identity in terms of

1 history, contiguous geography, income levels, housing  
2 developments, land use, immigration patterns and social  
3 services. The adjacent county of Sacramento suburban  
4 communities of Rosemont and LaRiviera, which are  
5 currently in the 10th Assembly District, share much in  
6 common with this part of the City of Sacramento.  
7 Combining these areas will enhance the voting influence  
8 of the Asian Pacific Islander community because Asian  
9 Pacific Islanders are concentrated in these areas  
10 constituting almost 20 percent of the population of the  
11 City of Sacramento as a whole and constituting almost  
12 10 percent of the population of Rosemont and LaRiviera.  
13 Such a district would facilitate coalition building  
14 amongst minority communities and enhance the election  
15 prospects of a majority-minority candidate.

16 In conclusion, the Sacramento region began  
17 along the Sacramento River and developed eastward.  
18 Looking at a map this development pattern approximates  
19 the transportation corridor of Highway 50. We believe  
20 that our proposed Ninth Assembly District makes sense  
21 and is logical. It would be cohesive and compact and  
22 would have the added benefit of complying with the  
23 Voting Rights Acts. We humbly ask for your  
24 consideration.

25 ASSEMBLY MEMBER STEINBERG: Just

1 clarification, Mr. Rye. When you refer to LaRiviera,  
2 you're referring to College Glen?

3 ASSEMBLY MEMBER PESCETTI: College Green.

4 ASSEMBLY MEMBER STEINBERG: College Greens?

5 MR. RYE: I believe that's right.

6 ASSEMBLY MEMBER STEINBERG: Thanks.

7 MS. FENG: I believe that on the maps that we  
8 handed out to the Assembly Members, as well as the map  
9 that's currently being projected, it's labeled there, I  
10 think, and if it's not, then I think it's the  
11 communities that's just to the east, I believe, of  
12 Rosemont.

13 ASSEMBLY MEMBER PESCETTI: To the north?

14 MS. FENG: North, yeah, close to Rosemont.

15 MR. DAWA: If I may, my name is Robert Dawa.  
16 In terms of enhancing that further, I think that we're  
17 referring to what the census tract defines as  
18 LaRiviera, rather than -- and I think we need to  
19 clarify within that particular census tract which  
20 neighborhoods that includes, and I think that was done.  
21 So --

22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Does that answer your  
23 question? He's referring to the census tract  
24 designation, rather than any other use of the name for  
25 LaRiviera?

1           MR. DAWA: Mr. Steinberg, I just want to make  
2 sure that I think I would want the correction, if I'm  
3 wrong, that LaRiviera does include that neighborhood --  
4 LaRiviera census tract includes the College Greens, and  
5 the LaRiviera neighborhood inclusive in that census  
6 tract?

7           MS. FENG: What we could do for clarification  
8 is communicate directly with the assembly member after  
9 we have a chance to look at demographics on a computer  
10 and make sure that we clarify that in a more accurate  
11 way.

12          CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you.

13          MS. FENG: And if it helps to provide  
14 additional information, I'm sure that we will be happy  
15 to accommodate that request.

16          CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. If  
17 you could provide the Committee with a copy of that and  
18 to Assembly Member Pescetti.

19          ASSEMBLY MEMBER PES CETTI: Just as a  
20 follow-up, if you could provide the same information  
21 that you will be providing to Assembly Member Steinberg  
22 to my office, I'd appreciate it as well.

23          MS. FENG: We will do that.

24          CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much.  
25 Were there any other questions at this point? Okay,

1 and please go ahead.

2 By the way, I did notice you very graciously  
3 told me how well I pronounced it, but I did  
4 mispronounce the "E" in Feng, so I apologize.

5 MS. FENG: A colleague of mine who works with  
6 NAACBLDF recently thought of a good way to introduce my  
7 last name. It is Feng, like Feng Shui and people have  
8 become a little more familiar with being able to say  
9 that.

10 Our third speaker who will be talking about  
11 the second priority, and only second in number, not in  
12 importance is Mr. Robert Dawa.

13 MR. DAWA: Thank you, Kathay. Good morning,  
14 Chairman Longville and other Assembly Members. My name  
15 is Robert Dawa. I'm a member of the Coalition of Asian  
16 Pacific Americans for Fair Redistricting in Sacramento  
17 County. I believe that I have copies of this to give,  
18 and unfortunately they're not stapled, but they will be  
19 distributed. Continuing on.

20 I live in the southern suburban rural part of  
21 Sacramento County, the Florin area to be precise. I've  
22 lived there continuously since 1989. I participated in  
23 election campaigns in this region since 1994. My  
24 affiliations and memberships in community-based groups  
25 are as follows: I'm a member of Filipino Political

1 Action Committee, also known as FIL-PAC, Town and  
2 County Democratic Club, and immediate past President of  
3 the Sacramento Midtown Lions, immediate past President  
4 of the Filipino American Democratic Club of Sacramento  
5 County, and the current Chair of Sacramento County  
6 Democratic Central Committee.

7 I would like to state my support for the  
8 broader principles that have been articulated by other  
9 members of CAPAFR throughout the state and in this  
10 hearing. Please respect our community's desire for  
11 fair representation. Please do not dilute our votes  
12 and please do not arbitrarily divide our communities.  
13 We do appreciate the opportunity to share our input and  
14 opinions as to how we desire to see the new districts  
15 created.

16 The south county has grown in population to  
17 where what once was agricultural lands is now suburban  
18 and urban in nature. The trend is now for more  
19 suburban and urban development to take place, and  
20 desire for better government services is indicated by  
21 the incorporation of the City of Elk Grove in the year  
22 2000.

23 The Elk Grove Unified School District had  
24 employed me during the early 1990s in its Accounting  
25 Department. This placed me in a unique position to

1 track population growth in the area and to observe  
2 change that Elk Grove in the surrounding areas made  
3 from a mostly rural community to what currently is a  
4 suburban community. Many families, mostly from the Bay  
5 Area, migrated to this community in search of a slower  
6 pace of life, good education for their children and  
7 better public safety. Included in these families were  
8 many Asian-Pacific Americans and specifically Filipinos  
9 such as myself.

10 I had a unique experience with this part of  
11 the world. As I grew up in the Bay Area my late father  
12 would take my family out on frequent trips to the Delta  
13 region, specifically Walnut Grove and Isleton. He did  
14 so because during the '30s and '40s he worked as a farm  
15 worker in the Delta area, including Yolo and San  
16 Joaquin Counties. He took me to a farm which was  
17 worked by older men who spent their entire lives as  
18 bachelors not being allowed by the society of the times  
19 to develop relationships with women outside of their  
20 racial classification. That day I helped the workers  
21 pick asparagus. Now, picking asparagus requires  
22 individual removal of each spear using a long tool to  
23 dig the spears from the ground. In order to pick  
24 efficiently one must stoop over, plunge the tool into  
25 the ground to sever the spear, remove the spear, then



1 move over to remove the next asparagus stalk still  
2 stooping. Needless to say, I did not see this as being  
3 much fun and it soured me on the benefits of  
4 agricultural work.

5           My father saw the same thing. After his Army  
6 enlistment ended after World War II, he eventually  
7 moved to the Bay Area and worked as a kitchen support  
8 helper until his retirement in the early '70s. I  
9 personally had not intended to move to this region, but  
10 the attraction of this areas low cost of living was  
11 hard to resist. As soon as my career allowed, I was  
12 able to become more involved with this community. As I  
13 did, I was able to notice the areas that had high  
14 concentrations of Asian Americans and Filipino  
15 Americans that were active in this community and  
16 interested politically. I had personally participated  
17 in election campaigns of two Filipino Americans from  
18 the Laguna area, Tom Santos for Board of Equalization  
19 in 1998 and Raul Cupino for Elk Grove City Council  
20 until 1999. In these campaigns we were able to  
21 identify five significant Asian communities within the  
22 Laguna community. The census data for these areas  
23 bears this out, and I have a copy that I've given out.  
24 This area is 18 percent Asian Pacific American, with  
25 the largest communities being Chinese Americans and

1 Filipino Americans at about 6 percent each.

2           Currently a presently undeveloped portion of

3 the southern border of the Laguna census tract is in

4 the same assembly and senate districts, specifically

5 Assembly District 8 and Senate District 4. It is our

6 hope and recommendation that the Walnut Grove and

7 Isleton communities are placed together with the Laguna

8 community as it relates to assembly redistricting, and

9 specifically our request is that the Laguna area,

10 census tract area of 34,000 be added to where the

11 district currently is for Walnut Grove, Isleton and

12 West Sacramento, Davis and Fairfield and Vacaville in

13 the Eighth District. Thank you.

14           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,

15 Mr. Dawa. Ms. Feng.

16           MS. FENG: That concludes our presentations

17 for today. I'm sure you are thankful there's only four

18 of us and not 11 as usual. We did want to just

19 reiterate a request that has been put forward to the

20 Assembly a number of times in the past hearings, and

21 that is that as the Assembly moves towards receiving

22 maps from the public and also creating statewide maps

23 as proposals, that following the August 15 deadline,

24 that the Assembly move towards setting up a set of

25 hearings for the public to be able to provide comment

1 on a number of the different proposals and reflect what  
2 would be our deal or what changes we would suggest to  
3 whatever the Assembly may be considering, and I thank  
4 the Assembly and Chairman Longville for allowing us  
5 this audience. Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for  
7 being here. Mr. Leonard.

8 ASSEMBLY MEMBER LEONARD: A question for  
9 Ms. Feng. The testimony today was very specific as to  
10 neighborhoods, which I really appreciate. Are you  
11 going to follow up and submit a statewide plan or  
12 regional plans for legislative districts?

13 MS. FENG: We will be submitting a statewide  
14 plan for assembly districts hopefully by the deadline  
15 of August 15, and you may notice that as we get closer  
16 to August 15 we are able to provide a little bit more  
17 detail.

18 ASSEMBLY MEMBER LEONARD: You are much more  
19 specific. I will appreciate that. If I could assist,  
20 I will be happy to do so.

21 MS. FENG: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Again, we appreciate it.  
23 It is our intent to not only hold the hearings as you  
24 requested after we have our plan as I mentioned in the  
25 introductory statement, but also to make it easier for

1 people to -- I find myself talking too fast there,  
2 slowdown. In order to make it easier for everyone to  
3 participate more effectively in the process, we hope to  
4 take any maps that we can, any maps that would convey  
5 meaningful information that we receive and put them on  
6 our website as well so that hopefully you will have --  
7 you will be able to compare with what others are  
8 thinking. Obviously this is a technical challenge, but  
9 we believe we are going to be able to do this to get a  
10 very comprehensive amount of information out there so  
11 that for the first time in history people are going to  
12 have kind of an inside look at how redistricting is  
13 going as it's going, being able to look at the plans  
14 from their own homes and see what's on the table and  
15 what's being considered. So we are looking forward to  
16 that part of it. Thank you.

17 MS. FENG: Thank you, Chairman Longville.

18 --oOo--

19 (Change in court reporters. Remainder of page  
20 left blank intentionally.)

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1                   CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Next we have representing the  
2 Chinese American CEOs of Silicon -- excuse me, of Silicon  
3 Valley, we have Mr. Joel Szabat. A familiar face in this  
4 room, though usually sitting on the other side of the  
5 furniture there.

6                   MR. SZABAT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members.  
7 My name is Joel Szabat, that's S as in Sam, Z as in zebra,  
8 A-B-A-T. And you are right, Mr. Chairman, speaking slowly  
9 will be a challenge for me as well. And I am much more used  
10 to sitting up on the dias. I have to confess that you and  
11 your fellow members are even more impressive when you are  
12 standing down here and looking up at you.

13                   I'm here representing -- I'm the executive director  
14 of Chinese American CEOs of Silicon Valley and representing  
15 them here today. I've already submitted extensive written  
16 testimony to the committee, and therefore I would prefer,  
17 rather than reiterating all of that, just to touch on the  
18 major points of the testimony that I've submitted.

19                   The voice of the Asian Pacific Islander or API  
20 community has not been heard in past redistrictings. In 1990  
21 Asian Pacific Islanders were 9.6 percent of the state's  
22 population, but not a single legislative or congressional API  
23 plurality district was created. In fact many traditional API  
24 communities were split. The most egregious example that  
25 those of you who were in the Los Angeles hearing heard about

1 was in long Los Angeles is Little Tokyo, was split among four  
2 separate assembly districts.

3 By point of comparison, in 1990, African Americans  
4 were 7.4 percent of the state's population. During that  
5 redistricting process, ten districts were created that were  
6 either African American plurality or had effective African  
7 American voting majorities.

8 This year Asian Pacific Islanders are 12 percent of  
9 the population of the State of California and are the fastest  
10 growing ethnic or racial group in California. And this year,  
11 I think thanks in large part to the organizational efforts of  
12 Kathay Feng and her colleagues at CAPAFR, the voice of the  
13 Asian Pacific Islander community will be heard in the  
14 redistricting process.

15 It is reasonably conservatively possible to create  
16 ten different API plurality districts in the state: Five  
17 assembly districts, two state senate districts, and three  
18 congressional districts. With the testimony I submitted I've  
19 included maps and explanations showing where those districts  
20 could be reasonably created.

21 If the legislature makes no major changes to the  
22 current redistricting map in California there will be two API  
23 plurality districts because of population growth in the last  
24 ten years. I think the first, as many of you know, is  
25 Assemblyman Kevin Shelley's 12th Assembly District in

1 San Francisco. Perhaps more surprisingly, Assemblyman John  
2 Dutras' 20th Assembly District in Santa Clara County is now  
3 also an API plurality district.

4 Casio believes that a fair measure of this  
5 legislature's commitment to the concerns and the voices that  
6 you've heard from the API community is whether at the end of  
7 the day the map that is drawn of our congressional and  
8 legislative districts is closer to ten API plurality  
9 districts as opposed to being closer to two.

10 That concludes my testimony. Mr. Chairman and  
11 members, thank you very much for your time and consideration.

12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for being  
13 here, Mr. Szabat. And I probably should have explained for  
14 the few in the audience who may not be insiders here in  
15 Sacramento that my earlier references to Mr. Szabat were  
16 dealing with the fact that he used to be a consultant for the  
17 minority side on the transportation committee until quite  
18 recently here in the assembly. And so we've attended,  
19 several of us have attended many meetings with Mr. Szabat and  
20 have enjoyed working with him, and it's a pleasure to see you  
21 again.

22 MR. SZABAT: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

23 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Our next witness is John  
24 Tuteur, and I'm terribly sorry if I'm pronouncing again your  
25 name wrong, sir, the Napa County Registrar of Voters. We

1 welcome you.

2 MR. TUTEUR: Mr. Chairman, members of the  
3 Committee, my name is June Tuteur, It can be pronounced  
4 Tuteur if you are French, and there are 24 ways to spell it  
5 without getting it right, so that's quite all right. It's  
6 spelled T as in Tom, U, T as in Tom, E-U-R. I am the  
7 elective Registrar of Voters of Napa County, and I appreciate  
8 what the committee is doing and you, Chairman Longville,  
9 because I will be conducting these hearings on behalf of the  
10 Board of Supervisors, the Board of Education and the College  
11 Board in Napa County beginning in the month of July for our  
12 local redistricting process.

13 I'm here today on behalf of the Board of  
14 Supervisors of Napa County with a resolution. I will not  
15 read the entire resolution into the record. I would just  
16 like to hit the highlights.

17 Napa County currently is entirely within the 1st  
18 Congressional District, the 7th Assembly District, and the  
19 2nd State Senate District of California. And we believe that  
20 being within a single district leads to a more cohesive  
21 community representation and represents the community that is  
22 Napa County. And since we have enjoyed the benefits of being  
23 within a single district for all three legislative bodies for  
24 at least the past decade, the Board of Supervisors went on  
25 record and asked me to communicate to you that the County's



1 elective representatives and the members of the legislature  
2 are urged to maintain single legislative districts for Napa  
3 County at the conclusion of the current reapportionment  
4 process. And we therefore would ask that you represent that  
5 as a community issue for Napa County in making your  
6 consideration of the new districts.

7 I'd be happy to answer any questions if there are  
8 any.

9 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. When I  
10 was first handed the resolution I had to glance down quickly  
11 as we're learning of new communities of interest. I was kind  
12 of waiting to see that the Cabernets should be in one  
13 district and the Merlots perhaps in another.

14 MR. TUTEUR: Actually we might do it on a reds  
15 versus whites basis.

16 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: All right. Well, we  
17 appreciate the, obviously the sentiment of the board that you  
18 are looking for a meritage district here, and we will  
19 appreciate your thoughts.

20 I should note, by the way, that I intended to  
21 mention after Mr. Szabat testified, there has been references  
22 to the plan that was adopted ten years ago. And I always  
23 like to remind folks that that plan was adopted by the courts  
24 after they rejected the legislature's plan. I try to make a  
25 point of noting that at least once in each hearing, usually

1 after someone has indicated dissatisfaction with the plan  
2 that was adopted ten years ago.

3 And if I might parenthetically insert kind of an in  
4 pro per comment here to the judge reviewing this transcript  
5 down the road some months, your Honor, please don't hold that  
6 against me.

7 We have our next -- yeah, that will help. We have  
8 our next, we have our next witness being Mr. -- oh, excuse  
9 me, Mr. James Sweeney, former member of the Berkeley City  
10 Council. I thought I was reading the same request.

11 And I should double check by the way, has  
12 Ms. Huffman arrived ?

13 MR. STEINBERG: I don't see her.

14 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Okay. We welcome you,  
15 Mr. Sweeney.

16 MR. SWEENEY: Thank you. I'm going to try to go  
17 slowly. My name is James Sweeney. I'm a former member of  
18 the Berkeley City Council. Although I'd like to add  
19 parenthetically that I am a graduate of UC Riverside, and I'm  
20 also the current executive director of Oakland Independence  
21 Support Center and co-founder and past chair of the Black  
22 Property Owners Association. I'm currently the chair of the  
23 Board of Trustees of New College of California, including the  
24 law school.

25 I'm here to discuss adding the 22,000 people to the

1 Assembly District 14. And I would like to address the  
2 community of interest question. We have a very rich and  
3 ongoing tradition in the Bay Area in terms of effective  
4 representation. We started in 1948 with William Byron  
5 Rumford, who was the person who designed our open housing  
6 laws so that all people could live wherever they could afford  
7 to live. We followed with the Honorable John Miller, Elliott  
8 Harris, and then, of course, Barbara Lee. And there has been  
9 a break since that time in terms of that community of  
10 interest.

11 But I would like to say as currently drawn,  
12 Assembly District 14 runs along the eastern shore of  
13 San Francisco Bay, including the cities of Richmond, San  
14 Pablo, El Cerrito, Berkeley, Albany, Emeryville and a portion  
15 of North and West Oakland. It is a minority majority  
16 district and heavily democratic.

17 According to the committee's data on population  
18 shifts, Assembly District 14 will have to be increased by  
19 roughly five percent or 22,000 people. Although this is a  
20 small change compared to the adjustments needed elsewhere in  
21 the state, it does provide a unique opportunity to protect,  
22 defend, preserve a community of interest essential to the  
23 14th District.

24 We request that the busy and diverse urban  
25 corridor, now the backbone of Assembly District 14, be

1 maintained and expanded to include an additional portion of  
2 West Oakland, an area stretching from the 880 freeway west to  
3 the shore. West Oakland is now split into the 14th and 16th  
4 Assembly Districts, and our plan unifies this large  
5 neighborhood and places it in a like-minded political home.

6           For one thing it is compact, for another what we  
7 propose is contiguous, and of course we believe that it is  
8 logical, and as you can see from the three points that we  
9 make, the citizens of West Oakland, Emeryville, West  
10 Berkeley, Richmond, the entire East Bay shoreline, have  
11 common political issues. Chief among them are access to  
12 affordable housing, improving low performing public schools,  
13 sustainable economic development, and effective public  
14 safety.

15           Secondly, the two low income communities of  
16 Richmond and West Oakland forming the bookends of the  
17 Assembly District 14 map unfortunately missed the 1990's  
18 economic boom. Their voices need to be strengthened at the  
19 statewide level now and ever more.

20           Finally both Richmond and West Oakland are large  
21 and historic port economies and many of the residents share a  
22 legacy of migration from the south. Obviously many of these  
23 residents are African American. We believe that this kind of  
24 response would be inclusive of the community of interests  
25 which would at least be supportive of the opportunity for an

1 African American to be elected and selected.

2           The two areas have developed along similar economic  
3 lines. They are both home to vital infrastructure like  
4 Interstate 80 and BART, and they face the same problems with  
5 public transportation, traffic congestion, pollution, and a  
6 dramatic decrease in manufacturing jobs.

7           Expanded as we suggest, Assembly District 14 will  
8 remain contiguous and compact. It will better reflect the  
9 similar history and culture of Richmond and West Oakland.  
10 And it will enhance the voice that has been in some instances  
11 unheard of in the state political process.

12           The plain and unvarnished funky facts are that  
13 there has not been African American representation in the  
14 East Bay in the assembly for at least eight years. We  
15 believe, therefore, not that you should quote "draw" a black  
16 district, but we believe that the continuity of interest will  
17 at least make it possible for an opportunity to occur.

18           Finally, we feel that alternative solutions like  
19 adding the suburban communities east of the Caldecott Tunnel  
20 to the Assembly District 14 serve to diminish the community  
21 of interests, reduce its political weight, and set up a  
22 district in permanent internal conflict.

23           So I would like to say to each and every one of you  
24 members that I appreciate your time and attention to these  
25 vital and important matters. Furthermore, I would like to

1 say that it is necessary that the representation of African  
2 Americans not just be from Los Angeles. Although we love Los  
3 Angeles, I was there last week, had a great time, the bottom  
4 line is that we want to also have some representation from  
5 the East Bay. The historic representation which has helped  
6 design some of the laws, the open housing laws, the Humphrey  
7 Hawkins and a number of historic pieces of legislation which  
8 correspond to the community of interest that have been laid  
9 out.

10 And so, unless there is some additional questions,  
11 that's it, and that's all.

12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,  
13 Mr. Sweeney, for taking the time to be here. We appreciate  
14 it.

15 And our next witness will be Mr. Erik Price. And  
16 so that people can be getting prepared, we will, after  
17 Mr. Price, move to the others who signed in this morning,  
18 starting with Mr. Ken Campbell and Mr. Donald Lowrie, Ed  
19 Fleming. Those people can kind of be prepared, and Juan  
20 Gallegos and Terry Leach. That's our full agenda.

21 Mr. Price, you have the microphone.

22 MR. PRICE: Thank you, Chairman Longville. Again  
23 it's Erik Price, E-R-I-K P-R-I-C-E, a relatively simple one.

24 James Sweeney and I drove up here from the East Bay  
25 together. Insofar as my presentation will echo some of his

1 thoughts, I think I'm going to put a slightly different spin  
2 on it. First I want to thank you gentlemen for having these  
3 public hearings and letting a citizen of California and  
4 someone that's grown up in the heart of Assembly District 14  
5 a chance to speak.

6 I was born and raised in Berkeley. My wife is from  
7 Oakland, and she now works in the Planned Parenthood chapters  
8 in Richmond. We go to the movies in Emeryville, my kids take  
9 swim lessons in Albany.

10 It's an irony and it's an interesting fact that I  
11 now live in an area, my community of interest fits almost  
12 exactly with how the lines were drawn for AD 14 as they  
13 currently exist.

14 It's a place that's urban, multi-cultural and  
15 dynamic. It's a Paradise if you appreciate those things in  
16 your life. For others it's not so much of a Paradise, it's  
17 crowded, overly expensive, and changing in ways that we would  
18 like to reverse. But that's for another subject.

19 What I wanted to just say, I wanted to reiterate  
20 the fact that through hook or by crook AD 14 is now wholly  
21 consistent with the community of interest that needs to be  
22 maintained and protected. Adding people, which is required,  
23 should be done with that in mind. We've seen Mr. Sweeney  
24 suggest a way to keep it urban and to keep it true to its  
25 heart and culture. It's an easy fix. It's not without its

1 issues that bounce into other districts, but it is one that  
2 is utterly consistent with your mission to keep communities  
3 of interest primary in the process. Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for taking  
5 the time to be with us today as well.

6 And next I will have Mr. Ken Campbell,  
7 Mr. Campbell, you are the second person today who pronounces  
8 the E in the last name the way Ms. Feng also pronounces the E  
9 the same way. We appreciate you are from the Placer County  
10 Central Committee?

11 MR. CAMPBELL: Yes, I am, sir.

12 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Please go ahead.

13 MR. CAMPBELL: Good afternoon, Mr. Chairman and  
14 members. My name is Ken Campbell, that's C-A-M-P-B-E-L-L. I  
15 am a member of -- or I am a resident of Placer County and  
16 Chairman of the Placer County Republican Central Committee.

17 From the fertile farmland of the Sacramento Valley  
18 to the rolling oak-studded foothills, to the booming cities  
19 of Rocklin, Roseville, Lincoln and Auburn, to the rugged  
20 Sierra Nevada Mountains, to the incomparable beauty of Lake  
21 Tahoe, we are Placer County and we are proud of it.

22 We are 248,000 people with similar interests and  
23 similar needs. Currently Placer County is very well served  
24 by one congressional district, one senate district and one  
25 assembly district. As a representative of Placer County I



1 come asking you that you do not split up the community of  
2 Placer County into multiple congressional, senate and  
3 assembly districts.

4 Also as chairman of the Central Committee I come  
5 requesting for early notification and early release of plans  
6 of redistricting so that candidates can have ample time to  
7 declare and prepare for the March primary.

8 Thank you so much for your time and allowing me to  
9 tell you about our community of Placer County. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much, sir.

11 Our next witness is Mr. Donald Lowrie from the  
12 Solano County Democratic Central Committee. And I note he'll  
13 be followed by Mr. Fleming and Terry J. Leach. Thank you.

14 MR. LOWRIE: Mr. Chairman, I'd like to thank you  
15 and congratulate you for pronouncing my name correctly. It  
16 doesn't often happen to me. For the record my name is Donald  
17 Lowrie, the last name is spelled L-O-W-R-I-E, and I am from  
18 the Solano County Democratic Central Committee.

19 You've had speakers speak on the fact that they are  
20 very glad that their county was retained intact in the last  
21 redistricting. Solano County was not. And that is my chief  
22 issue. The special master shows you divided into two  
23 assembly and senate districts and three congressional  
24 districts. We have a population of approximately 390,000,  
25 and all three, all three of the largest cities are currently

1 divided.

2           Vallejo is divided between two assembly districts,  
3 Vacaville between two congressional districts, and the City  
4 of Fairfield is not only divided by congressional districts  
5 but by assembly districts. And we would urge that that not  
6 occur in this redistricting.

7           The City of Fairfield, as I said, is divided both  
8 ways with assembly and senate districts. And we have found  
9 that literally people do not know who their representative is  
10 because it depends on which corner they live in, which  
11 combination they have. And we would urge that you try to  
12 keep Solano County within one district if possible. If not,  
13 consider logical communities of interest. The last  
14 redistricting divided right down the middle of a subdivision  
15 and that proved to be chaotic for us.

16           Vallejo and Benicia are Bay Area-looking  
17 communities. They are oriented to the area, and to a lesser  
18 extent towards Napa County. Other cities in our county,  
19 Dixon, Rio Vista, to some extent Vacaville and Fairfield,  
20 tend to be more oriented towards the Sacramento area and Yolo  
21 County. So if you must divide Solano County, and I would  
22 urge you not to do so, please take that into account and look  
23 at logical communities of interest.

24           And I would make a special plea to consider that  
25 the Cordelia area, which is currently divided from the rest

1 of Fairfield, is in fact part of Fairfield. And also that  
2 the City of Suisun City is in many ways part of the same  
3 community of interest as the City of Fairfield. We share a  
4 joint sewer district, a joint water district, a joint school  
5 district. We have the same garbage service, the same cable  
6 service. We work together as a similar community of interest  
7 in almost every area except for our municipality of  
8 designation.

9               So please consider those facts when you are  
10 redistricting in Solano County. Thank you.

11               CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much, sir.  
12 Appreciate your suggesting a backup plan if we can't meet  
13 your first goal.

14               Next we have Mr. Ed Fleming from the Rural Caucus  
15 Democratic --

16               MR. FLEMING: I'm the Rural Caucus.

17               CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Oh, the Rural Caucus of the  
18 Democratic Party. Excuse me, sir.

19               And just to note after Mr. Fleming will be  
20 Mr. Gallegos, and I don't want to guess on whether it's Mr.  
21 or Ms. Terry Leach. It's Ms., okay.

22               Thank you very much. Go ahead, Mr. Fleming.

23               MR. FLEMING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And this is  
24 my first go around with this so it's very interesting and  
25 it's -- I really appreciate all -- the chance to do this.

1           In 1990, or when they had the last redistricting,  
2 what I thought was tragic and I wish the assembly had been  
3 able to do this instead of the courts. Most of the districts  
4 in the rural areas were redistricted in a vertical manner. I  
5 would have thought that it would have been much better off if  
6 they would have been redirected in a horizontal more than  
7 manner.

8           I'm very interested, of course, in the Marysville  
9 Yuba City area, living in Marysville, a town small, of 12,000  
10 people, and a county not that big of 70,000. Yuba and Sutter  
11 were divided. So today Yuba City and Marysville have three  
12 different assembly people, three different congressional  
13 people and three different congress people.

14           This has been very bad for us. And until 1990 we  
15 were in the same district, Marysville and Yuba City. Many of  
16 the reasons it's been bad is because everything in the Yuba  
17 Sutter area is by county. The Mental Health Division is by  
18 county, Economic Development Commission is by county, the  
19 highway system 70/99 running together is by county. We have  
20 an economic development and we have -- I'm on the Chamber of  
21 Commerce for the Political Affairs Committee, that's also by  
22 county. Almost everything in the area is by county.

23           Also economic interests like working Highway 79 --  
24 70 and 99 together, also come together. We also have a very  
25 big problem with HMOs leaving the area. It's 30 -- in the 35

1 mile range for most of our people for Kaiser, for example, is  
2 just out of reach, just out of reach, just out of reach. So  
3 we really have an interest in us being in the same district  
4 together.

5           And I think the last point which I think is very  
6 important, and may put me out of a job pretty soon, is that  
7 we are now a urban rural suburbia area with a growing  
8 minority population in both counties. And it's because of  
9 this we're no longer really rural. And it's moving more  
10 urban this way because of the growth of Sacramento and Placer  
11 County. It would be much better in our interest to have us  
12 grow in a horizontal way with our representatives and would  
13 be much better interest if we were in Placer or Yolo or  
14 Sacramento County's districts than being all the way up to  
15 Modoc on one side and Siskiyou County on the other.

16           So I hope you will take this into consideration,  
17 and I thank you for your time.

18           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much for taking  
19 time to be here, sir.

20           Next Mr. Juan Gallegos, with the Willie C.  
21 Velasquez Institute, and also MALDEF, The Mexican American  
22 Legal Defense and Education Fund. Welcome, Mr. Gallegos.

23           MR. GALLEGOS: Thank you very much, Committee, for  
24 having me talk and listening to me, us here. I represent --  
25 first of all my name is Juan Gallegos, J-U-A-N, Gallegos,

1 G-A-L-L-E-G-O-S. I am here representing the William C.  
2 Velasquez Institute and the Mexican American Legal Defense  
3 Education Foundation, which is our sister organization in  
4 this redistricting process.

5 The reason I'm here is to address an issue in the  
6 southernmost part of California which is -- pertains to your  
7 senate colleagues, the senate committee. I'll start with the  
8 senate hearing that was supposed to happen this Tuesday, June  
9 26th, in San Diego. First of all, the location to the  
10 building was changed I would say about a month ago. Then  
11 they transferred it to USD, university campus. Now they have  
12 postponed it.

13 We are asking that you convey this message to the  
14 chair, Don Perata, to immediately release a date as soon as  
15 possible. We have delegations, we have teams in Imperial  
16 Valley in San Diego, community activists, community people  
17 who took the time off to go and testify on Tuesday. It's  
18 very important that the new date get released as soon as  
19 possible so that we can send that information down and have  
20 proper representation at the testimony. Thank you very much.

21 CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much, sir. We  
22 will be more than happy to convey your message as well to our  
23 colleagues in the senate. Appreciate your taking the time to  
24 be here today.

25 MR. GALLEGOS: Thank you.

1                   CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much. And next  
2 I have Ms. Terry Leach, board member of the Lamorinda  
3 Democratic Club, I believe.  
4                   By the way, I want to thank Mr. Gallegos for  
5 correcting me on my missidentification of MALDEF since  
6 there's the sister organizations. The one that I've dealt  
7 with has been MALDEF educational fund as opposed to foundation.  
8 But I appreciate his correcting me. Thank you.  
9                   And Ms. Leach, you have the microphone.  
10                  MS. LEACH: Thank you for the opportunity. I am  
11 Terry Leach, and as you indicated I'm a Board Member of the  
12 Lamorinda Democratic Club, for the uninitiated, that stands  
13 for contiguous communities east of the Caldecott Tunnel,  
14 Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga. I'm also the vote (inaudible)  
15 chair for the Contra Costa County Central Committee. I also  
16 perform pro bono legal work for the Chicano Latino Caucus of  
17 the CDC. I've also appeared before you, sir, a few months  
18 ago on behalf of Bill 801520 that we're working very hard to  
19 increase voter registration.  
20                  So I thank you very much for the opportunity to  
21 speak to you. And it was perfect because it dovetails with  
22 Mr. Sweeney's comments.  
23                  The first thing that the Board of Lamorinda  
24 Democratic Club wants to say is that whatever you come to in  
25 your wisdom, first of all, what's most important to the

1 democrats that we represent are gains for democrats on a  
2 local level, a statewide level, regional level, and  
3 ultimately a national level. And if you, in your wisdom,  
4 determine that what we are asking for is not the best outcome  
5 for democrats both on a state, local and national level, we  
6 trust that you looked at all of the information in front of  
7 you. But we are very, very committed in what was otherwise a  
8 republican stronghold several years ago to support democratic  
9 issues and democratic candidates.

10           Now what I'd like to talk about is the community of  
11 interest in the Central Contra Costa County area. Lamorinda,  
12 Lafayette, Orinda and Moraga, comprises the area just east of  
13 the Caldecott Tunnel, and then extends on to the border of  
14 Walnut Creek. The community of interest arguments, and  
15 you've got some documents that I've prepared, thank you, for  
16 you, indicate that the primary high school district that  
17 serves the Lamorinda area, serves high schools in Lafayette,  
18 Orinda, Moraga and Walnut Creek. Because of funding and  
19 financing problems students not only offered, but encouraged  
20 to take classes at any of the high schools in any of the four  
21 cities.

22           Similarly, one thing I didn't mention, is I'm a  
23 health care attorney, I represent large groups of physicians,  
24 also patients. I sit on Childrens Hospital Oakland boards, I  
25 do ethics work for Childrens Hospital. And many of the



1 patients in the Lamorinda area seek their medical care from  
2 providers in Lamorinda and in Walnut Creek, and the primary  
3 provider of hospital services is John Muir/Mt. Diablo in  
4 Walnut Creek and Concord.

5 Similarly issues that are of grave concern to  
6 constituents in Lamorinda are transportation. As BART moved  
7 out to the east counties so did people. We're very, very  
8 concerned about long commutes and improving service on BART,  
9 and potentially adding a fourth bore to the Caldecott.

10 The one thing we share with our neighbors and  
11 friends in the 14th AD, we are increasingly democratic, and  
12 we want to make that point.

13 My concern, however, is that the democrats in  
14 Lamorinda support Ellen Tauscher to a great extent. And many  
15 of the moderate republicans in Lamorinda support Ellen  
16 Tauscher to a significant extent, her fund raiser as a  
17 registered republican. And it's very important to note that  
18 because a concern we have is that we have a community that  
19 puts excellent public schools first, that puts solutions  
20 first, that puts living in a cohesive community first, and  
21 republicans and democrats will work together as we just did  
22 three weeks ago to pass a library tax.

23 But I'm concerned that all of those swing votes  
24 will be lost. And we cannot help lawmakers from the 14th AD.  
25 Not to say we won't work, we will work as much as we can.

1 But you'll get more out of us if we can continue to support  
2 lawmakers from the area. Now that's of course the 10th CD.

3           With respect to the 15th AD, we have a  
4 representative who does not, in most of the views, in the  
5 views of most of the moderates that I deal with, we believe  
6 that she does not represent our issues. I am not related to  
7 her though we share the last name. We have not been able to  
8 elect a democrat. We believe as time goes on we can.

9           A concept I want to throw out to you, and of course  
10 leave it to you in your wisdom, is to consider when you're  
11 redistricting an east/west look retaining Lamorinda in the  
12 15th AD. Of course we'll chat with our colleagues in the  
13 14th AD because I was able to hear the testimony about  
14 Richmond, which is in Contra Costa County, but considering  
15 looking at Contra Costa not from the north/south perspective,  
16 but from a east/west perspective, and giving us an  
17 opportunity to help you do your job.

18           Lastly, though this is very much out of our area, I  
19 just want to share with you, we are fortunate in Lamorinda to  
20 have the majority -- not the majority, but a significant  
21 percentage of our hundreds of club members employed at the  
22 University of California at Berkeley. And many of them are  
23 employed at very interesting occupations, and many of them  
24 are working behind the scenes right now to draw maps. And so  
25 you all have copies of proposed maps. Do with them as you

1 will or do as you like.

2           One suggestion that has come from several  
3 individuals, because we have a real mind -- wealth of minds  
4 in Lamorinda who are committed to democratic causes, might be  
5 to attempt to get that 53rd CD back, the one that was lost,  
6 Dick Fazio's seat, in the last redistricting by moving  
7 around -- if I pronounce these names incorrectly please  
8 forgive me, Mr. Matsui Ose's seat and Pombose's seat, that  
9 there is a way to accomplish all of this without compromising  
10 the community of interest that exists in Lamorinda, and the  
11 fact that we really, in the 15th AD, increasingly are working  
12 with the 14th AD. And we would rather not find ourselves  
13 conflicted over such things like a fourth bore in the  
14 Caldecott Tunnel. We have too much we agree on. We don't  
15 want to be placed in the position of disagreeing.

16           Any questions?

17           CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Any questions, Members? No.  
18 Thank you very much. Oh, excuse me, I'm sorry. There is a  
19 question.

20           MR. LEONARD: I do have a question. The document  
21 that you handed out, the copy didn't come through. I cannot  
22 read the column headings. Do you have an original that you  
23 could help me with the column headings? The first one looks  
24 like population, but I'm not sure if that's current  
25 congressional districts or not.

1                   MS. LEACH: Sir, I'm sorry, I don't. But I can get  
2 it to you. If I can get that through Mr. Guerrero.

3                   MR. LEONARD: If you can submit it to the committee  
4 and get copies, Mr. Chairman, I think that will help us with  
5 the proposal.

6                   MS. LEACH: Sorry about that. Thank you.

7                   CHAIRMAN LONGVILLE: Thank you very much,  
8 appreciate that. And let me double check. Are there any  
9 witnesses whose information I did not receive out there? Are  
10 there any additional witnesses waiting to testify?

11                   If not, thank you all Ladies and Gentlemen for  
12 coming here today. We appreciate you taking the time to  
13 participate in the process. Those who, those who participate  
14 obviously have the opportunity to make sure that their  
15 concerns are better recognized because they are heard. We  
16 appreciate you taking the time. Thank you very much.

17                   And without objection or any closing comments,  
18 without objection, this hearing is adjourned. Thank you.

19                   Oh, excuse me, I'm sorry. Let me add though, there  
20 are add two additional hearings coming up. If anyone needs  
21 any information on those, and also the information on the web  
22 site is in the material being handed out either in the back  
23 of the room or in the hall. Thank you very much.

24                   (Whereupon, the proceedings adjourned at 12:38 p.m.)

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